

Weekend Weather

Today: Partly Cloudy – high 55, low 43

Saturday: Partly Cloudy with some rain– high 57, low 33

Sunday: Partly Cloudy – high 61, low 43



Sorties

Squadron	Month	Year
8th FW	+96	+141
35th FS	+47	+47
80th FS	+49	+94



Common Courtesies

In Korea, it is considered rude to blow your nose in public. This habit is especially frowned upon during a meal.



WOLF PACK
WARRIOR

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News Briefs



Wolf Change of Command

Col. Philip Breedlove relinquishes command to Col. Burton Field May 1. The 8th Fighter Wing commander change of command ceremony takes place at Hangar 3 at 9 a.m. All 8th Fighter Wing personnel should be in place no later than 8:45 a.m.

Vehicle parking is limited. People are encouraged to walk or carpool. For additional information, please contact Capt. David Dethlefs at 782-5485.

Wolf Farewell Party

A wing farewell party for Col. Philip Breedlove, 8th Fighter Wing commander, will occur Apr. 27 at Hangar 3 at 4 p.m.

The wing farewell party barbecue is open to all wing personnel. Vehicle parking is limited. People are encouraged to walk or carpool. For additional information, please contact Capt. David Dethlefs 782-5485.

Wolf FiniFlight

Eighth Fighter Wing commander Col. Philip Breedlove's final Wolf Pack F-16 flight occurs Thursday.

Wing personnel are encouraged to celebrate the occasion at the 8th FW base operations ramp at 4:45 p.m. Vehicle parking is extremely limited. People are encouraged to walk or carpool. For additional information, please contact Capt. Allen Roberts at 782-5207.

SonLight Inn Meal

The free meal tonight at the SonLight Inn at 6 p.m. is barbecue chicken, cornbread and cookies and sponsored by the Company Grade Officers' Council.



Photos by Senior Airman Shannon Patrick, 8th OSS/OSW

Kunsan welcomes Spring

The first Republic of Korea cherry trees were planted by Japanese soldiers when Japan invaded Korea during World War II. Japanese forces planted the cherry trees to make their surroundings look more like their homeland. With help from American, Chinese, and Russian forces, the Japanese soldiers were expelled from Korea. Because the cherry trees were symbolic of Japanese Imperialist rule, many of the cherry trees in Korea were cut down in the late 1940's and early 1950's. However, the beauty of these trees in full blossom did not escape the Koreans. As one of the first trees to blossom in the spring, the cherry tree symbolizes the rebirth of the Korean nation after two difficult conflicts: WWII and the Korean War. Today, cherry trees flourish across the Korean peninsula, blooming briefly during the month of April and signal the beginning of spring.

Chief Finch talks retention issues during recent visit to Pacific

By Senior Airman Bobby Yettman
15th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii (AFPN)—Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch addressed some key issues affecting airmen during a recent visit to Hickam Air Force Base.

One of the main concerns expressed to the chief during his travels is the unintended consequence enlistment and re-enlistment bonuses have had on the more senior noncommissioned officers.

“The experienced force is a bit frustrated right now because bonuses for younger troops are at such a high level,” he said. “In some cases our most junior people actually make more money than their experienced supervisors. We’re working solutions to help resolve that.”

The good news is that the Air Force is making some headway in its retention efforts, especially with first-term airmen.

“If you look at the numbers, first-term retention has rebounded a little,” he said. “However, we’re still lagging in second-term and career airmen. That means we have to refocus some of our objectives to take better care of our experienced

NCOs.”

The chief said one possibility is to focus on additional pay raises on the mid-level and senior noncommissioned officer corps.

One avenue that is helping in our retention efforts is the new career assistance adviser program.

“The CAA is there to provide commanders, supervisors and first sergeants with the tools they need to help their troops make an informed decision,” he said. “They aren’t there to do the job of the former base career advisers. What we had previously was base career advisers who were doing the jobs of first-level supervisors. We realized it should be the NCOs and supervisors who have the responsibility to provide career counseling to their people; however, we hadn’t given them the tools to make it work.”

The chief said bases need a focal point for retention issues; someone who will keep their sights on retention and keep supervisors informed on the latest trends or programs.

“Retention concerns can’t be solved with a surgical strike where one solution fixes everything,” he said. “We must use more of a shotgun approach where we try many things at once to collectively help retention.”